

drug coverage, under a modernized Medicare that provides seniors access to the newest and most effective medicines and treatment. I will continue working closely with the Congress to improve this legislation as we move forward.

NOTE: The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this statement.

### **Statement on the Death of Strom Thurmond**

*June 27, 2003*

Senator Strom Thurmond led an extraordinary life. He served in the Army during World War II, earning a Bronze Star for valor and landing at Normandy on D-Day. He served his country as Senator, Governor, and State legislator and was a beloved teacher, coach, husband, father, and grandfather. While campaigning across South Carolina with him in 1988, I saw firsthand the tremendous love he had for his constituents and the admiration the people of South Carolina had for him. He was also a friend, and I was honored to have hosted his 100th birthday at the White House. Laura joins me in sending our prayers and condolences to the entire Thurmond family. He will be missed.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### **June 21**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President declared a major disaster in West Virginia and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and landslides on June 11 and continuing.

#### **June 22**

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush attended a tee-ball game on the South Lawn.

#### **June 23**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to New York City.

In the evening, the President traveled to Camp David, MD.

#### **June 24**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush had lunch with President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan and his wife, Begum Sehba Musharraf.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey A. Marcus to be Ambassador to Belgium.

The President announced his intention to nominate Deborah Ann Spagnoli to be a Commissioner of the U.S. Parole Commission.

#### **June 25**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings.

Later in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President met with Prime Minister Konstandinos Simitis of Greece, in his capacity as President of the European Council, and Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission. The leaders then met in the Cabinet Room with other officials.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with European Union leaders.

Later in the afternoon, the President met with Republican Members of Congress to discuss proposed Medicare legislation. He then met with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth of Mauritius to the White House on June 26.

The President announced his intention to nominate Julie L. Myers to be an Assistant